

REMARKS

Applicant has now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action of March 26, 2004. In response, a selected claim has been canceled (claim 33), other claims amended (claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 29, 34, 37 and 38), and new claims 41-50 presented for consideration. Pending claims should be read in conjunction with the accompanying arguments in support of patentability. Applicant desires consideration of the enclosed amendment.

THE OFFICE ACTION

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 23, 24 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Allen (US Patent No. 5,732,652).

Claims 15, 25, 26, 28 and 31-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Allen.

Claims 3-10, 14, 16-22, 29, 30, and 34-40 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were determined to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 23, 24 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Allen. The Allen reference discloses a discharge opening which is generally rectilinear and defined by lower wall 13, upper wall 12, and terminal edges of peripheral wall 14 including the tangential extension 15.

In contrast, amended claims 1 and 13 recite a discharge opening defined by terminal edges of a side wall and a top wall, the top wall including an arcuate edge portion. This structure, recited

in amended independent claims 1 and 13, is not shown in Allen. Applicant submits that the pending independent claims 1 and 13, and all claims dependent therefrom, are not anticipated nor made obvious by Allen for at least the reasons set forth above, and are allowable over this record art. Applicant accordingly requests reconsideration and allowance thereof.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner next rejected claims 15, 25, 26, 28 and 31-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Allen. Claims 15, 25, 26, 28, 31 and 32 are all directly or indirectly dependent upon amended independent claim 13. The arguments stated above are equally appropriate here and will not be repeated. Claims 15, 25, 26, 28, 31 and 32 include further limitations which distinguish the present invention over Allen and are not anticipated nor made obvious by Allen for at least the reasons set forth above. Applicant accordingly requests reconsideration and allowance thereof.

Claim 33 has been canceled.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner objected to claims 3-10, 14, 16-22, 29, 30 and 34-40, but the claims were determined to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended the objected to claims. The claims have been rewritten in independent form, or are dependent upon a rewritten claim, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant accordingly requests allowance thereof.

DRAWINGS

A new page 6 of the drawings has been substituted for the original page 6 filed with the above referenced application. The original drawing page showed two reference numerals 63. The new drawing page reflects the change of one of the reference numerals 63 to the proper reference numeral, 62.

CONCLUSION

All formal and informal matter having been addressed, this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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